




A Model Career Clusters System

Career Awareness (Grades K–5)	Grades K–2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn about different kinds of work. • Students are instructed in diversity and gender equity in the workplace. • Students learn about goal setting and decision making. • Students learn what it means to be a good worker. 	
	Grades 3–5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students use career inventories to identify occupations. • Students use assessment tools to explore their skills and interests. • Students are introduced to career decision-making models. • Students learn about occupations in the various career clusters. 	
Career Exploration (Grades 6–8)	6th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students begin career exploration activities, including identification of learning opportunities in the community. • Students take career assessment surveys. • Students identify jobs within the clusters requiring different levels of education. 	
	7th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may participate in service learning, job shadowing, and mentoring. • Students identify the steps of the career decision-making process. • Students identify and explore sources of career information. 	
	8th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students pick a cluster of study that they are interested in exploring. • Students meet with parents, counselors, and teachers to develop IGPs. This includes both academic and career major courses. • Students may participate in service learning, job shadowing, and mentoring. 	
	9th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may declare majors and focus their elective choices in particular areas. Students should have the ability to modify or change this focus throughout their secondary school careers with the guidance of educators and parents. • Students review and update their IGPs. 	
Career Preparation (Grades 9–Postsecondary)	10th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may declare majors if they have not done so in the 9th grade. • Students review and update their IGPs. • Students may participate in job shadowing and internships. 	
	11th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students review and update their graduation plans, with particular attention to postsecondary goals. • Students may participate in job shadowing, internships, and apprenticeships. 	
	12th Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students complete requirements for their majors. • Students may participate in job shadowing, internships, and apprenticeships. • Students receive recognition for completion of career cluster majors at graduation. 	
	Postsecondary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students follow aligned career cluster pathways to a two- or four-year college, the military, other postsecondary education or training, or employment. • Students obtain rewarding entry-level employment within their chosen clusters. • Students continue to refine career choices throughout their lifetimes of learning. 	